# Erection del Arzopispado

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# Mexico

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Ioannes de çumarraga dei optimi et aplice sedis munere epus, et seruus ecclie Mexiconen, cuiuis sub christi dei euangelio eterno militanti gra, et pax a deo patre, et eius consuſtantiali vnigenito filio pacis auctore, qui sui diui corporis effuso cruore donauit nobis omnia delicta, delens quod aduersus nos erat, chirographum decreti quod erat contrariu nobis et ipsum tullit de medio, affigens illud cruci, pacificans per ſanguinem crucis eius, siue que in terris siue que in cœlis ſunt, placuit diuine bonitati: hiſpaniarum regnis adeo celebres preficere heros, qui nedum barbaricos enses, ac molles, que illorum uictoriam sequntur, e medio effugarent: verum sui patrimonij et uite prodigi facti, remotiſsimas, et incognitas penetrarent regiones, ac idolatrie monſtruo inde ſublato, euangelium uite, crucis vexillo hinc inde triumphante: christianorum magna ſtipante caterua, plaudente religione chriſtiana, magnis auspitijs late, diffuseq, plantarent. hi sunt sereniſsima regina ioanna, ac illius genitus inuictiſsimus carolus, maximus imperator ſemper auguſtus. rei secularis ex dei electione sulus, et indubitatus Monarcha: quorum cura circa hoc potiſsimu uersatur. ut omnes gentes eandem orthodoxam profiteant fidem, et vniuersus orbis ad unius ueri dei cultum redigatur, fiatq unu ouile, et unus paſtor. atq iuxta baptismi pauli oraculum, unu corpus, unus spus, una spes, unus dominus, una fides unu baptisma, unus deus et pater omniu, qui super omnes et per omnia et in omnibus, nobis acunctis vniformiter proclametur. ob hoc quippe innumeras rates, carinas atq triremes, scille, caribdi, ac alijs compluribus cerulei maris anguſtijs exposuere. ob hoc sane in effabiles suorum regnorum thesauros, quasi manu undiquaq perfosa, per abruptas et incultas horas, etiam nec aſſem mundani lucri inde sperantes, herculeo illo suo animo, sepisſime, et affatim proiecerunt, attentantes iter, uel euntibus, uel redeuntibus multis, nominibus infauſtu nullo tn infœlicius quamq pluries chriſtiani nominis augmentu non contingebat, ac pene duplicabat moleſtiam gentemq illam experirent omnino aduersam, et inductilem, cuius utilitati potiſsimu tantum laboris desudabat, ob hoc res utiq lucidiſsimae e: selectos uiros q plurimos, nedum in arte militari, uerum et in omnigena erudictione, ac pietate. ad barbaros et fere beſtialiter viuentes, homines deſtinarunt, alteros quidem qui illos suo regali sceptro ſubmitteret, alteros vero, qui sacra dei templa edificarent, et ad sinceram fidei ueritatem radijs uere theologie illuminatos, illos redigerent, et inmaculatam, quam edeficarent eccliam, si forte diabolico inſtinctu misceretur, a fœda barbariei appellatione uendicarent. Perſpiciebat nimirum regia prudentia id quod ueriſsimu e. non mediocriter ad chriſtiane religionis ornamentu facere, ne quid omnino canatur, aut legatur in templis, quod non grauiſsimo doctiſsimo cuiq placere queat. hoc e, quod non ex diuinis libris hauſtum sit, aut certe a viris eximijs profectum, demu tanta solertia, tam ingenti cura et anguſta, opera hui rei, studio inſatigabili, chriſtiani nominis ſupta prouintia, annis non paucis insudarunt. Vt illis inlocis, in quibus ab incognitis seculis astaroth, bel, baldagon, et relique baratrie nerine spurtitie colebant, iam non nisi diuinum nomen sacri hymni hipoſtatice laudes, uirginei cantus, diuorum panegyreci, martirum ſanguis, virginum puritas, ecclie dogmata, et pontificia iura hinc inde resonent, atq tripudient. loquant ipsa opera, teſtent rem quondam prophane blaspheme et demonum nominibus plene regiones. nunc uero insule chriſtiane et oppida fœliciſsima, chriſto, ac glorioſſe militie dicata huius fœlicitatis, participes ſunt. Cumana. perlaru flume. Venecia

minor, Sancta martha. nomen dei, darienū, pannama, nicaragua, indica cartago, profunda loca, perutū, yucatanū, cocumellū, flumen palmarum, hiſpanica, insula fernandina, margarita, iaymeca, et sancti ioannis, ac alia q̄ꝫ plurima loca, quedam a fluminibus, quedam uero a ducū illa conquiſtantiū, genealogijs nomina trahentia, que adeo diuini cultus schemate fulgent, exuberatissimis templis, ac monachorum cœnobijs hinc inde constructis, ut vere de illis: respectu nr̄i: diuinū iudicium iam verificet, erunt nouiſsimi primi, et primi noviſsimi, hoc uero ingens diuini amoris incendiū piiſsimorum horum regum ſtudio actum ē, quibus taliter fauit diuina clementia, ut non solum regali sceptro cunctos nr̄i eui reges antecedant, verū pietate precipui fidem christianam precunctis ampliauerint, quapropter mihi magis interea libet illis mentem iſtam regibus dignam, quam fortunam quamlibet amplam gratulari. O fœlicem christi populum, si paſsim contingat, tales eē principes, quibus chriſti glīa nil sit antiquius, qui totum regium ornatum moribus et uita referant. quibus et si sceptrū detrahas, tamen reges chriſtianos agnoscas, in quibus sane fortuna, q̄ꝫ antiquitas cæcam faciebat, oculata uidetur, qui generis sui longe clariſsima schemata morum suorū ornamētis illustrant, regiam dignitatem uite integritate conduplicant, imperiali aquile: nescio quid maieſtatis: aditum uidetur, postq̄ꝫ hi similes non habentes principes totius orbis Monarchiam tenent. quid superē, nisi ut Chriſtum optimū maximumq̄ꝫ comprecemur, ut iſtam mentem illis, illos uero nobis q̄ꝫ diutiſsime seruet incolumes. Adtantam itaq̄ꝫ exuberantiā, (ut ad rem brebiter veniamus) horum principū deuenit clementia, q̄ mexiconeñ prouinciam, iter omnes regie dictioni submiſsas precipuam interra firma, quam novam hiſpaniā nuncupamus, situatam non solum a barbarico illo cultu christi fide vndiquaq̄ꝫ ampliſsime euangelizata mundauerint, verum ut ordo hierarchicus, quem Romana tenet ecclia in illa obseruetur, apostolico super hoc implorato consensu, episcopatum, cathedrale templum, ac parrochiales ecclias, dignitates, canonicatus, prebendas, beneficia, et cetera hmoi in ipā erigere, construere, ędificare et fundare, omnino regio ſup̄ hoc habito consilio, decreuerint, atq̄ꝫ ut rem effectui comendarent, me inutilem, et omnino adtante rei executionem inhabilem, cum apud illos plurimi non deessent. qui mea sententia comulate valerent, suis sanctiſsimis votis satisfacere, ex angulo mei franciscani instituti, Semisepultū extraxerunt, et in primū mexiconeñ nominauerunt, et eligerunt epūm, quorum pie petitioni, et electioni, Sanctiſsimus dominus noſter papa clemens huius nominis septimus paternali affectu: ut parē: condescendens aplicas litteras per manus regias nobis subpeditandas, solerti cura destinauit, quas quidem litteras in menbramine more Romano conscriptas, aplico plumbo in filis sericeis rubrei croceiq̄ꝫ coloris pendente, sanas, integras, non vitiatas, non cancellatas, nec aliqua sui parte suspectas, sed omni prorsus vitio et suspectione carentes, is qui regium agebat negociū, Coram magno cetu in precipuo templi sacro loco, sancti spūs, inuocato fabore nobis presentauit, quas q̄dē ea qua decuit veuerentia, et submiſsione suscepimꝰ et legimꝰ. Series uero earū de verbo ad verbum ē que sequit

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Clemens epūs seruus seruorū dei ad perpetuam rei Memoriam, Sacri apostolatus ministerio meritis
licet insufficientibus superna disposione presidentes, vniuersi orbis provincias, et loca ea presertim,
que omnipotentis dei misericordia christiane ueritatis lucem nr̄is potissime temporibus inciperunt
agnoscere, frequenti meditatione intendimus, ut in illis orthodoxe fidei cultus augeatur et chris,
tiana religio propaget', ac eorum incole, et habitatores Venerabiliū presulum doctrina, et autorita,
te suffulti, in eadem fide semp proficiant, ipsaq; loca maxime insignia dignioribus titullis at,
tollant, et maioribus honoribus decorentur, presertim cum id catholicorum regū, et et cesaree
maiestatis pia uota exposcunt, et cognoscimus, in dn̄o salubriter expedire. Sane cum oppidum
Mexiconeñ in indijs maris tirreni nuncupati, olim auspitijs clare memorie ferdinandi Aragonie
regis, et elisabeth regina Castelle, et legionis regnorum, per dilectum filium nobilem virū Petrū
arias militem segouieñ eorum gentium, armorum ad easdem indias destinatorum exercitus
generalem capitaneum nouiter repertis, et e manibus infidelium illas tunc occupantiū, ereptis, ac
ad ditionem, et dominiū eorum, et pro temp̄ existentium regum eorundem regnorū redactis,
illisq; temporalibus subiectis, que eisdem regibus, dum vixerunt: et deinde charissimo in chris,
to filio nr̄o Carolo Romanorum imperatori semper augusto, dictorum regum, nedum heredi, et
successori, verum et in desiderio orthodoxam fidem ubiq; exaltandi, imitatori, ac sub eorꝫ obidientia
et dominio ratione, dictorū regnorum ex tunc successiue, eodem petro capitaneo guberna,
tore permanentibus, consistens admodū insigne existat, longumq;, et latissimū, et districtum
territoriū circum circa habeat, adeo q; in eo, ultra viginti millia vicinorū, uel incolarū, quorꝫ
plures fideles, tam nouiter conuersi, q̄ et alij forenses, et de diuersis mundi partibus ad illud
habitandū confluentes, conmorent: et resideant, ac in eo, inter alias ecclias, monasteria, et pia
loca, ex deuotione regū maiestatis et capitanei predictorū, inibi constructa, vna parrochialis
ecclia, sub inuocatione beate marie virginis cū structuris, et edeficijs conuenientib3, ad quam
omnes ipi fideles promissis, et diuinis officijs audiendis, ac eccliasticis sacramentis suscipiendis,
tamq; ad eorum parrochialem eccliam recurrunt, et consistit, ac idem Carolus imperator summopere
cupiat, eandem parrochialem eccliam in cathedralem, ipsumq; oppidum in ciuitatem Mexiconeñ
erigi, & instrui. Nos habita super his cum venerabilibus fratribus nr̄is Sancte Romane ecclie
cardinalibus matura deliberatione, eodem Carolo imperatore nobis super hoc humiliter supplicante
ad laudem et gliam omnipotentis dei, et eiusdem beate marie virginis eius genitricis, ac totius
curie cœlestis, necnō ipsius fidei exaltatione, apostolica autoritate tenore presentium suppli,
cationibus caroli imperatoris hm̄oi inclinati, de eorundem fratrū Consilio pariter et assensu,
oppidum mexiconeñ, ac parrochialem eccliam beate marie hm̄oi in cathedralem Mexiconeñ,
sub inuocatione assumptionis eiusdem beate marie nuncupandam pro uno ep̄o Mexicon̄ qui
inibi et in illius ciuitate, ac diocesi verbum dei predicet, et infideles ad eandem fidem conuertat,
ac tam illos sic conuersos, q̄ alios predictos fideles in eadem fide expertius instruat, doceat,
et confirmet, ac Sacramenta ecclistica eis ministret, et ministrari, ac predictam erectam
eccliam, illiusq; edificia ad formam cathedralis ecclie redigi, faciat, ac in ciuitate et diocesi

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predictis collegiatas, et parrochiales, ac alias ecclias, monaſteria, capellas, hoſpitalia, oratoria,
et alia pia loca, ac in illis reſpectiue in numero et cum dotibus, ac qualitatib9 decentibus, per
eum aſsignandis, ſpecificandis, maiores, principales, abbatiales, conuentuales, et alias digni-
tates, perſonatus. adminiſtrationes, et officia etiam curata, et electiua, necnō canonicatus et
prebendas, integras, et dimidias portiones, capellanias, vicarias, et alia beneficia eccliaſtica
cum cura et ſine cura, ac capitula, necnō capitulares, abbatiales, conuentuales, et alias
menſas, erigat, et inſtituat, reſpectiue, ac alia ſpualia temporalia iuriſdictionalia, et pon-
tificalia officia, omniaq3 et ſingula alia, que alij epi regnorum eorumdem facere, et exer-
cere, conſueuerunt, et que pro diuini cultus augmento et fidei hmoi exaltatione, ipſorumq3
fidelium animarum ſalute, expedire cognouerit, faciat: et exerceat. ac omnibus et ſingu-
lis alijs preuilegijs, prerrogatiuis, preeminentijs, et gratijs, quibus alij epi predicti, de
iure et conſuetudine, ac alias vtuntur, potiuntur, et gaudent, ac uti, potiri, et gaudere po-
terunt, quomodolibet in futurum, vtatur, potiat', et gaudeat, ac uti, potiri, et gaudere, libe-
re, et licite ualeat, necnō in eadem ecclia Mexicon capitulū canonicorum, et perſonarum,
epali et capitulari menſis. ac ſigillo, et alijs inſignijs, iuriſdictionibus, priuilegijs, et pre-
eminentijs epalibus et capitularibus, erigimus, et inſtituimus, ac incolas et habitatores dicte
ciuitatis Ciuiū nomine decoramus, necnō eidem erecte ecclie pro illius ciuitate, ciuitatem
erectam, et pro dioceſi terras, inſulas loca et oppida, que idem Carolus imperator, uel eius
conſiliū, indiarum nuncupatū, poſitis limitibus, et confinibus neceſſarijs, ſtatui, et aſsignari,
iuſſerit, ac pro clero, et populo, illorū incolas, et habitatores hmoi reſpectiue, ac pro dote et
etiam pontificalis dignitatis, et pro tempore exiſtentis epi, illius decentiori ſuſtentatione,
decimas, primitias, et alia iura epalia ſpualia et temporalia, de bonis rebus, et fructibus,
de quibus Carolus imperator, uel conſiliū hmoi ſpecificauerint, et ordinauerint, itaq3 idem
epus Mexicon, in ciuitate et dioceſi predictis, epiſcopalem iuriſdictionem, autoritatem et
poteſtatem exercere, ac decimas et primitias et iura hmoi percipere, et leuare, ad inſtar epor
predictorum, libere, et licite ualeat, applicamus et appropiamus, necnō ius pronatus, et infra
annū propter loci diſtantiam, per ſe uel alium, ſeu alios ad id et ante vacationes deputā-
dos procuratores, preſentandi perſonas ydoneas, tam hac prima vice, q3 quoties illa pro tem-
pore vacauerint, ad ecclam uidelicet Mexiconen nobis, et pro temp exiſtenti Romano pontifici
per nos et illū reſpectiue, in eiuſdem ecclie epum, et paſtorem preficiendum, ad omnes
uero et ſingulas alias dignitates, perſonatus, adminiſtrationes, officia, canonicatus et pre-
bendas, portiones, capellanias, vicarias, monaſteria, prioratus. et alia beneficia hmoi, eidem
tempore exiſtenti epo mexicon ac eius uicario, ſeu officiali per eum inſtituendas, ad eaſdem
preſentationes Carolo imperatori predicto ratione regnorum Caſtelle et legionis hmoi, ac pro
tempore exiſtenti illorum regi uel regine de ſimilibus conſilio et aſſenſu reſeruamus, concedim
et aſsignamus. non obſtantibus conſtitutionibus, et ordinationibus apoſtolicis, ceteriſq3
contrarijs, quibuscunq3. nulli ergo hominū liceat, hanc paginam noſtre erectionis, inſtitu-

tionis

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decorationis, applicationis, appropiationis, reseruationis, conceſſionis, et aſſignationis, infringere, uel ei ausu temerario contraire, Siquis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis dei, ac beatorum petri et pauli apoſtoloru se nouerit in cursuru. datis Rome apud sanctum petrum, Anno incarnationis dnice Millmo quingmo tricessimo, quarto nonas septembris, Pontificati nri Anno ſeptimo.

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Poſt quarum quidem litterarum apoſtolicarum presentationem, et receptionem, ut premittit, factas, fuimus, pro parte Sereniſſime dñe ioanne, et Caroli ſemper augusti, eiusdem filii hiſpaniarum regum, debita cum instantia requisiti, ut ad complementum litterarum aplicarum, et contemptorũ in eisdem procedentes in prefata nr̃a cathedrali eccl̃ia ad honorem glorioſiſsime marie uirginis aſſumptionis dedicata, et in dicta noua hiſpania fabricata, dignitates, canonicatus et prebendas, ac portiones, alia q̃ beneficia, et officia eccl̃iaſtica, quot quot et prout melius expedire, videremus, tam in ciuitate, q̃ per totam diocesim erigeremus. et institueremus. Nos igitur frater ioannes de cumarraga ep̃us predictus, ac comiſſarius aplicus prefatus, attendentes petitionem, et requisitionem hm̃oi iuſtas fore, et rationi consonas, cupientes q̃, ut uerus obediens filius aplica iussa, nobis directa reuerenter exequi, ut tenemur, comiſſionem predictam acceptauimus, et eadem autoritate aplica qua fungimur in hac parte, prefata maieſtate instante, et petente, in predicta cathedrali eccl̃ia, Mexicon̄ ciuitatis in predicta noua hiſpania. ad honorem dei et dñi nr̃i ih̃u christi, ac beatiſsime marie virginis matris eius, in cuius, et ſub cuius titulo per prefatũ ſanctiſſimũ dñm nr̃um cathedralis eccl̃ia ẽ erecta, tenore presentium erigimus creamus et instituimus./

Decanatum. que dignitas prima poſt Pontificalem in eadem eccl̃ia existat, qui curet, et prouideat, q̃ officium diuinum, et omnia alia, que ad cultum dei pertinent, tam in choro, q̃ in altari, q̃ etiam in proceſſionibus, in eccl̃ia, et extra, in capitulo, et ubicunq̃ conuenerĩ eccl̃ie seu capituli ad illud exoluendum congregabunt, cum silentio, et ea qua decet honeſtate ac modeſtia rite, et recte perſiciantur, ad quem etiam pertinebit, is quibus a choro ex causa discedere, conuenit, ex pressa causa, et non alias licenciam concedere./

Archidiaconatũ eiusdem ciuitatis, ad quem clericorum ordinandorum examinatio, prelato solemniter celebrante, ministratio, ciuitatis, et diocesis, si sibi a prelato iniungat, visitatio, et alia que de iure comuni competunt, exercere, pertinebit, qui in altero tñ iurium uel in theologia, ad minus bachalarius exiſtat in vniuersitate graduatus./

Cantoriam ad quam nullus poſſit presentari nisi in musica, Saltem in cantu plano doctus, et peritus exiſtat, cuius in faciſtolio cantare, et seruitores eccl̃ie cantare docere, et que ad cantum pertinent, et expectant, ordinare, corrigere, et emendare, in choro et ubicunq̃ per se, et non per aliũ officium exit./

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Scolaſtriam. ad quam et nullus, nisi in altero iuriũ, aut in artibus bachalarius in aliqua generali vniuersitate graduatus exiſtat, presentetur. qui grammaticam clericos et eccl̃ie seruitores, ac omnes diocesanos audire volentes per se, uel per alium docere tenebitur./

Thesaurariam. ad quem eccl̃iam claudere, et apperire, campanas pulsare facere, omnia utensilia eccl̃ie, custodire lampades et luminaria curare de incenso luminibus, pane, et uino ac reliquis ad celebrandũ necesarijs de redditibus fabrice eccl̃ie exponendis, ad votum capituli prouidere pertinebit./

Nec non decem canonicatus et prebendas, quas a dictis dignitatibus omnino ſepparatas, eē decer-
nimus, nec unq̄ unam simul cum dignitate aliqua obtineri, posse, ordinamus. ad quos et cano-
nicatus et prebendas, nullus presentari poſsit, nisi ad sacrum presbyteratus ordinem iam sit
promotus, ad quos quidem canonicos quotidie, preterq̄ in prime, et secunde dignitatis, fes-
tiuitatibus, in quibus prelato, uel eo impedito aliqua de dignitatibus celebrabit, miſsam celebrare
expectabit,

Instituimus insuper Sex integras et totidem dimidias Portiones, et qui ad dictas integras por-
tiones presentandi fuerint, ad sacrum diachonatus ordinem sint promoti, in quo quidem
ordine teneant in altari quotidie deseruire, nec non paſſiones decantare. qui uero ad dimidias,
ad sacrum subdiachonatus, qui quidem epiſtolas in altari, et in choro, et prophetias, lamen-
tationes, et lectiones teneantur decantare.

Volumus insuper et ſtatuimus, q̄ ad dignitates, canonicatus, portiones, integras, et dimidi-
as supradictas, uel ad aliquod alliud beneficium totius nr̄e diocesis nullus presentari, ualeat,
qui cuius uīs ordinis, priuilegij, aut officij occaſsione a iurisdictione nr̄a ordinaria sit exemp-
et si forte contigerit exemptum aliquem presentari uel institui, talis presentatio uel institutio
sit ipso iure nulla.

Ac duos Rectores. qui exerceant in dicta cathedrali nr̄a ecclīa officium rite et recte miſſas celebrādo
confeſiones audiendo. aliaq̄ sacramenta, caute et solicite miniſtrando, qui ad presentationē
catholicarū maieſtatum sicut cetera beneficia nr̄e diocesis prouideantur.

Ac sex accolitos, qui accolitatus officium in altaris miniſterio quotidie p ordinem exercebunt
ordinamus.

Capellanos insuper sex, quorum quilibet tam in nocturnis, q̄ in diurnis, ac etiam miſsarū
Solemnitatibus, ad faciſtolium in choro personaliter interesse, et in vno quoq̄ mense Miſsas
viginti, nisi iuſta infirmitate uel impedimento fuerit impeditus, celebrare teneatur.

Presentationem autem dictarum dignitatum, canonicatuum, portionum integrarum, ac dimi-
diarum, aliarumq̄ dignitatum canonicatuum, ac similium portionum futurarum in predi-
cta nr̄a cathedrali ecclīa creandarum, prefatis catholicis hiſpaniarum regibus, ac eorum suc-
cessoribus, prout de iure eis competit, et autoritate apl̄ica, reseruamus eadem autoritate.

Accolitorum, ac capellanorum predictorum electionem, seu prouisionem, ad nos. et successo-
res nr̄os, vna cum nr̄o capitulo, pertinere decernimus. volumus autem, q̄ dicti capellani,
qui pro tempore fuerint eligendi, non sint familiares ep̄i, nec alicuius persone dicti capituli,
nec fuerunt tempore vacationis.

Officium uero Sacriſte qui ea que ad officium thesaurarij expectant ipso presente et de eius comiſ-
sione, et in eius absentia, ad votum capituli exercere tenebitur.

Officium organiſte, qui organa in diebus festiuis, et alijs temporibus, ad votum prelati uel
capituli pulsare teneatur.

Officiū perticarii, cuius in processionibus ordinare, prelato, presbytero, diacono, subdiachono, et reliquis altari ministrantibus de choro ad sacristiam, uel altare, uel de altari ad sacristiā in chorum euntibus, uel redeuntibus anteire officium erit.

Officium æcconomi, siue procuratoris fabrice, et hospitalis qui architectoribus, muratoribus, necnon fabris lignarijs, et alijs officialibus, edificandis ecclijs operam dantibus preerit, quiq3 per se, uel alios, redditus et prouentus annuos, et quecunq3 emulumenta et obuentiones, ad dictam fabricam et hospitale quouis modo pertinentia, coligere, et expendere habebit, reditu-rus annuatim rationem de receptis, et comsuptis epō et capitulo uel officialibus ab eis dem, ad hoc specialiter deputatis, necnō ad eorum nutum eligendus uel remouendus, prestita prius per eum ydonea satisdatione, q3 ad administrationē admitatur.

Officium insuper Cancellarij siue notarij ecclie et capituli, qui quoscunq3 contractus inter eccliam, epūm, capitulum, et quoscunq3 alios in prothocollo et notis suis recipere actus capi-tulares scribere donationes, possesiones, census, feudus, precaria per eosdem epūm et capi-tulum et eccliam uel eisdem factas uel in posterum faciendas, annotet, et scribat et instru-menta custodiat, partes reddituum beneficiatis distribuat, necnō rationes reddat et recipiat.

Officium insuper Canicularij, qui canes ab ecclia eiiciat, in omnibus sabbatis et quorumcunq3 festorum uigilias habentiū, uigilijs, et alias ubi et quando, p thesaurariū sibi fuerit iniunctum ecclia purgabit,

De quibus omnibus Videlicet quinq3 dignitatibus, decem canonicatibus, Sex integris, et toti-dem dimidijs portionibus, et sex capellanis, et sex accolitis, et officijs predictis, quia de presenti fructus redditus et prouentus decimarum non suppetunt thesaurariam ex dignitatibus, quinq3 uero Canonicatus, et omnes integras et dimidias portiones ad presens indicta erectione volum9 suspendere, q si prefatis quatuor dignitatibus, et quinq3 canonicis, redditus memorate quarte partis, ad presens (quod non credimus) non suppetant, arbitrio nostro, nrorumq3 successorū reseruamus. quas dignitates quosq3 canonicatus, interim suspendere debeamus, donec reddi-tus excreuerint, Suspensi uero expectabunt donec ad maiorem quantitatem fructus puenerint, restituendi ad prebendas prefatas, per nos et nros successores, ordine nobis considerando, ad potiorem ecclie nre utilitatem, itatamen, ut cum deo duce ad pinguiorem fortunam fructus et redditus nre predicte ecclie peruenerint, q3 primum ad dotem thesaurarię suspense applicatam, desu-per crescentibus fructibus auctum fuerit, thesaurariam eandem ex nunc erectam, et creatā, eē decernimus absq3 alia noua creatione, et erectione persone per eandem catholicam maiesta-tem nominande, conferendam, et consequenter, dum fructus redditus et prouentus ulteri9 augmētum receperint, dictorum canonicorum numerus usq3 ad denarium numerum succes-siue augeatur, quo expleto, tunc omnes integre, et dimidie portiones, successiue suo ordine admitantur, et demū de redditibus superexcrescentibus, sex accolitatus pro sex clericulis qui in quatuor minores sint constituti, et acolitorum officium in altaris ministerio exer-ceant, et sex capallanie simplices, pro sex predictis capellanis similiter prouideant, postmo-dum uero, officium organiste, et perticarij, æcconomi, notarij, et caniculatij predictorum dicto numero successiue iuxta ordinem literaliter premissū, absq3 aliquo interualo augeatur.

Et quia secundum apostolum, qui altari servit, de altari vivere debet, omnibus et singulis dignitatibus, personis, et canonicis prebendatis, et integris, et dimidiis portionariis, capellanis, clericulis, siue accolitis, ceterisque officijs, et eorum officialibus, iuxta numerum supradictum expressis, omnes et singulos fructus, redditus et prouentus, tam ex regia donatione, quam ex iure decimarum aut alias quouis modo ad eos depñti aut in futurum pertinentes, videlicet ordine literario, decano, archidiachono / cantori / scolastico / thesaurario, et omnibus canonicis / necnõ portionibus, et dimidijs, ac etiam rectoribus, et omnibus alijs supra notatis / et nominatis Modo sequenti. Decano, scilicet centum et quinquaginta libras, pesos / uulgariter in illis partibus nuncupatas / quarum librarum quelibet, unum castellanum aureum quadringentos octoginta quinque maravetinos monete vsitate hispanie constituentem. archidiachono centum et treginta valoris eiusdem pesos seu castellanos, et cuilibet de dignitatibus, totidem, et cuilibet de canonicis, cẽtum portionariorũ cuilibet septuaginta, dimidijs treginta quinque, capellanis quidem cuilibet viginti, accolitis singulis duodecim. / organiste sedecim / et notario totidem, perticario totidem, ecconomo uero quinquaginta, canicular io quidem duodecim libras auri, similes totidem castellanos et marapetinos constituentes, ex nunc pro tunc ordine literario, prout exprimitur, seruato, cum fructus, redditus, et prouentus superexcreuerint, applicamus, et assignamus. Et quia ut dictum est propter officium datur beneficium. Volumus, et in uirtute sancte obedientie districte percipiendo, mandamus. quod predicta stipendia sint quotidiane distributiones assignate, distribute quotidie interessentibus singulis horis, nocturnis pariter et diurnis, et exerciciis dictorum officiorũ, itaque a decano usque ad accolitum inclussiue, is qui alicui hore non interfuerit in choro, stipendio siue illius hore distributione careat, et officialis qui sui officii exercitio, uel executioni deerit, multetur Similiter singulis vicibus pro rata salarij, Tales uero distributiones, quibus absentes priuantur, ad potiorem decorem diuini officij, iuxta arbitrium nr̃um, nr̃orumque successorum, uolumus, distribuant. item volumus et eadem autoritate ordinamus, ut omnes et singule dignitates canonici et portionarij dicte nr̃e ecctie cathedralis teneantur residere et seruire in predicta nr̃a ecctia, per octo menses continuos, aut interpollatos, aliquim nos uel successores nr̃i. qui protempore fuerint aut capitulũ / sede uacante / teneantur, eo prius vocato, et audito, si iustam et rationabilem causam absentie non habuerit, et allegaberit, personatum, uel canonicatũ siue portionem vacantem pronunciare, et de illo uel illa, ydoneis, ad presentationem tamen prefate catholice maiestatis, et eorum in regnis hispanie successorum, prouidere. Iustam autem absentie causam, hoc loco difinimus egritudinem, dum tñ beneficiatus infirmus in ciuitate maneat, aut in suburbijs eiusdem ciuitatis, aut si eam incurrerit, stans extra ciuitatem, cum rediierit, aut redire parauerit ad eam, dum tñ hoc probationibus legitimis constet, uel cum de mandato epi uel capituli simul, et pro causa et vtilitate ecctie absens fuerit, itaque ista tria concurrant in hac sua absentia,

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15 Volumus insuper, et de consensu et beneplacito prefate et Serenissime maiestatis et eadem autoritate apostolica, statuimus, decernimus, et mandamus, quod omnium decimarum tam

cathedralis, q̃ aliarum ecctiarum dicte ciuitatis et diocesis, fructus, redditus, et prouentus, in quatuor equales diuidant partes. quarum unam, nos et successores nri epi, perpetuis futurisq; temporibus, pro onere pontificalis habitus ſuſtentando, et ut decentius et iuxta pontificalis offi, cij exigentiam ſtatum nrum ſuſtentare, valeamus, absq; aliqua diminutione pro nra epis, copali mensa habeamus. decanus uero et capitulu et reliqui miniſtri ecctie quos super aßig, nauimus, aliam quartam partem, modo premißo, inter eos diuidendam habeant, a quibus par, tibus, licet ex comiſſione aplica et longeui temporis usu, moribus et consuetudine approbata, eadem catholica maieſtas terciam partem /tercias/ in hiſpania vulgariter nuncupatam, habe, re et recipere, integraliter consueuit. Volens erga nos sue liberalitatis dexteram extendere, pro, ut et oſtendit circa alias partes, circa qualitatibus infra expressis, nos et epos successores, ac capitulu prefatos, ut magis debitores tanto munere refectos efficeret, et ut pro eadem et regiis eiusdem maieſtatis successoribus, preces effundere teneremur, in nra et dicte ecctie nre et capituli, in sua quarta decimaru parte liberos et exemptos in futuru ee voluit. Relique uero due quarte partes, iterum in nouem diuidendas partes decernimus. duas quarum eidem maieſtati serenißime, insignum superioritatis, et iurispronatus, ac ratione accquisitionis predicte terre futuris perpetuis, temporibus percipiendas, et leuandas, applicamus.

De reliquis uero septem partibus, bifariam duximus ee faciendam diuisionem, quaru quatuor de dictis septem, omnium decimarum parrochie nre cathedralis ecctie pro dictis duobus recto, ribus in eadem nra ecctia, ut dictum e, preficiendis cum omnibus primitijs eiusdem parrochie applicamus. ita tamen q predicti duo rectores preſtare teneant octauam partem dictarum quatuor partium sic illis applicataru dicte nre ecctie Sacriſte, qui teneatur iuxta morem deser, uire. volumus autem, q si successu temporis portio cuiuslibet dictorum rectorum, quam modo premisso percipere debet, suma centum et viginti aureoru caſtellanorum /pesos/ vulgari, ter nuncupatorum exceserit, quod super excreuerit, reliquis canonicatibus portionibus et dimidijs portionibus, et alijs officijs nre dicte cathedralis ecctie, ut dictum e suppressis appli, cetur. in singulis uero parrochialibus ecctijs tam dicte ciuitatis, q totius nre diocesis. quatuor predicte de dictis septem, beneficijs in unaquaq; dictaru ecctiarum erigendis, et creandis, ap, plicamus, declarantes, etiam simili modo octauam partem dictaru quatuor partium, sic dictis beneficijs applicataru, sacriſte, cuiusq; parrochialis ecctie, dicte ciuitatis et diocesis nre ee tribuendam. Volumus autem et ordinamus, q omnibus dicte ciuitatis et diocesis nre, ecctijs parrochialibus (excepta nra ecctia cathedrali) tot beneficia simplicia creentur et ordinent, quot ex quantitate redditunm dictarum quatuor partiu, sic eisdem beneficijs ap, plicatarum, creari et ordinari poterunt, aßignata tantum congrua et honeſta ſuſtentatione clericis, quibus beneficia illa conferri debent. itaq; nullus sit determinatus dictorum benefici, orum numerus, sed superexcrescentibus fructibus crescat et miniſtroru copia in eisdem ecctijs, que quidem predicta benificia simplicia seruitoria, que pro tempore in dictis ecctijs creari conti, gerit, ut dictum e, quotienscunq; vacare contigerit, quouis modo prouidere uolumus, et

Statuimus: filijs dum taxat patrimonialibus descendentibus ab incolis qui ex hiſpania, in dictam prouin-
ciam transmearunt, aut ad eam in habitandam in futurũ transire contingat, donec in poſterum
uisa et cognita per nos uel ſucceſſores nr̃os chriſtianitate et capacitate indorum, ad inſtantiam
et petitionem ſupra dicti patroni, nunc uel pro tempore exiſtentis uisum fuerit. indis et natura-
libus dicta beneficia etiam prouidenda, premiſſo prius examine et oppoſitione iuxta formam et
laudabilem consuetudinem in episcopatu palentino actenus obseruatam inter filios primo-
niales, dum tñ dicti filij patrimoniales, quibus sic de dictis beneficijs prouisum fuerit, infra
annum et dimidium, a die sibi facte prouisionis, teneantur presentare, et oſtendere coram
dicte prouintie appellationum iudicibus, aut gubernatore pro tempore ibidem exiſtentibus
ratihabitionem dictarum catholicarum maieſtatum, uel pro tempore ſucceſſorum suorum
in hiſpanie regnis, collationem et prouisionẽ sic sibi predicta forma factarum, alioquin pre-
dicta beneficia eo ipso vacare censeatur, prefatiq; catholici reges, siue illorũ ſucceſſores, per-
sonas alias poſſint ad dicta beneficia, iuxta predictam formam callificatas, presentare. Volu-
mus autem, q̃ donec exiſtant filij patrimoniales, qui iuxta prefatam consuetudinem pale-
tinam, possint eligi ad dicta beneficia. prouisio dictorum beneficiorum fiat ad presentatio-
nem dictarum catholicarum maieſtatũ pronorum et non alias. Sed quia animarum cura
curazgo dicte ciuitatis, ac totius nr̃e diocesis ad nos et futuros ſucceſſores nr̃os principaliter et pre-
cipue expectat, tam q̃ qui iuxta apoſtoli sentenciam de illis in die iudicij rationem red-
dituri sumus, accedente ad hoc consensu, ac voluntate earumdem catholicarum maieſtatũ
pronorum predictorum, et sua inſtante petitione ac autoritate et thenore predictis. volum9
et ordinamus, q̃ in omnibus dicte ciuitatis ac nr̃e diocesis ecclijs parrochialibus, excepta parrochia
nr̃e ecclie cathedralis, nos et prelati, qui pro tempore fuerint, comendemus, et iniungam9 animarũ
curam pro nr̃e uoluntatis arbitrio, cui uideremus ipsarum eccliarum beneficiato, seu benefi-
ciatis, seu cuicumq; alio sacerdoti, etiam non beneficiato, pro eo tempore, ac ſub illa forma
quibus nobis visum fuerit, dictarum animarũ saluti magis expedire, sub diuini obteſtatio-
nem iudicij futuros omnes et nr̃os successores exortantes et requirentes q̃ in hac comiſſione
animarum, nulla sit apud eos personarum acceptio, sed solum sibi a deo comiſſarum ouiũ
utilitati consulant, et saluti. et ut qui prefate animarũ cure a nobis uel illis prepoſiti fue-
rint, congruentius valeant ſuſtentari, pro ipsarum animarum solicitudine, aliquam
suscipiant temporalem retributionem, applicamus eorum cuilibet primitias omnes parro-
chie illius in qua sic animarum curam gesserit, relicta parte sacriſte inferius designanda.
sacriſta Volumus insuper, et ordinamus, q̃ inſtitutio, et deſtitutio Sacriſtarum omniũ eccliarum
nr̃e diocesis fiat semper ad nutum et diſpositionem nr̃am, et nr̃orum pro tempore succes-
sorum cum moderatione salarij, si forsam dicta pars octaua, que sibi, ut premiſſũ ẽ,
solui debet, in magnam excreuerit quantitatem, ita tñ q̃ quid quid ex eadem octaua

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parte illis, per nos, uel successores nr̃os ademptum fuerit, in ipsius ecctie fabricã, uel aliquod diui-
ni cultus augmentum eiusdem ecctie et non in aliquos alios usus consumi debeat, similiter
tres partes restantes, de septem partibus supradictis, in duas iterum partes equaliter diuidantur.
quarum vnam, scilicet medietatem trium dictarum partium, cuiuslibet dictorum oppidorum
ecctie fabrice libere applicamus, reliquam uero partem, uidelicet medietatem trium dictarum
partium, hoſpitalibus cuiuslibet oppidi cosignamus, de qua quidem medietate siue parte eisdẽ
hoſpitalibus applicata, dicta hoſpitalia teneantur, hoſpitali princi pali exiſtenti vbi cathedralis
fuerit ecctia, decimam soluere. applicamus et eadem autoritate in perpetuum fabrice di-
cte nr̃e ecctie ſanctiſsime Marie, omnes et singulas decimas unius parrochiani eiusdem
ecctie, et omnium aliarum ecctiarum totius ciuitatis et diocesis per prefectum fabrice
oeconomum, singulis annis eligendi, dum tñ talis electus parrochianus non sit primus,
seu maior, uel ditior nr̃e dicte ecctie cathedralis et aliarum ecctiarũ nr̃e dicte diocesis. Offm̃
uero diuinum, diurnum pariter et nocturnũ tam in miſsis ꝙ̃ in horis, fiat semper et dicat
secundum consuetudinem ecctie hiſpalensis, donec et quousq; synodus celebretur. Volumus
insuper et de eius celsitudinis inſtantia et petitione ordinamus, ꝙ portionarij ipsi vocem
habeant in capitulo vna cum dignitatibus et tam in ſpũalibus ꝙ̃ in temporalibus, preterꝙ̃
in electionibus, et alijs a iure prohibetis caſsibus, qui solis dignitatibus et canonicis pertineãt.
Et insuper uolumus et de eius serenitatis inſtantia et petitione ordinamus, ꝙ in dicta nr̃a ca-
thedrali ecctia, preterꝙ̃ in diebus festiuis, in quibus una tantum miſsa solemniter celebrabit
hora terciarum, due quotidie miſse celebrentur, quarum vna prima, primis diebus veneris cu-
iuslibet mensis de anniuersario fiat pro hiſpanie regibus preteritis, pñtibus, et futuris. dieb;
uero sabbati miſsa predicta in virginis glorioſe honorem pro prefatorum regum incolumitate
et salute reſpectiue celebretur. cuiuslibet autem mensis prima die lune, eadem miſsa pro
animabus in purgatorio exiſtentibus ſolemniter dicatur, reliquis uero diebus prefata miſsa
de prima poſsit celebrari ad uoluntatem et diſpositionem, cuiuslibet persone uolentis ipsam
dotare, dictiq; epũs et capitulũ poſsint quamcunq; dotem recipere, a quibus uis personis
sibi oblatam, pro eiusdem miſse celebratione. secunda vero miſsa de festo uel de feria oc-
currenti, Secundum ſtilum hiſpalensis ecctie, uel alias hora terciarum celebrabitur, et qcũq;
maiorem miſsam celebrauerit, ultra comunem diſtributionem, omnibus illi mise interessẽtib;
aſsignatam, uel aſsignandam ſtipendium lucretur triplum ꝙ̃ ad quamcunq; diei horam. nisi
ex rationabili et iusta causa et de decani licencia, uel alterius in choro pro tempore presidẽtis,
absens fuerit. Super quo petentis licenciam et concedentis concienciam oneramus, et quicũq;
similiter matutinis et laudibus interfuerint, triplum lucrentur, ꝙ̃ ad quamcunq; diei horam
et insuper ſtipendium prime, quamuis illi non interfuerit. Volumus insuper, et de eius ma-
ieſtatis inſtantia et petitione ordinamus. ꝙ bis in qualibet hebdomada capitulum teneatur,
feria uidelicet tercia, et sexta, et ꝙ feria tertia tractetur ibidem de negocijs occurrentibus, feria
autem Sexta, de nulla alia re, nisi de morum correctione, et emendatione tractetur, et de

his que ad diuinum cultum debite celebrandum, et ad clericalem honestatem, in omnibus et
per omnia, tam in ecclia q̃ extra conseruandam, expectant, et quelibet alia dies ad capi-
tulum celebrandum sit interdicta, nisi noui cassus qui emerserint, aliud exegerint, per hoc
autem nolumus iurisdictioni nr̃e episcopali aut successorum nr̃orum circa correctionem
et punitionem dictorum canonicorum aliarumq̃ personarum nr̃e cathedralis ecclie ali-
quatenus derogari quam omnimodam iurisdictionem correctionem et punitionem dictaꝝ
personarum, nobis et dictis successoribus reseruamus. ad instantiam et petitionem pre-
fatarum maiestatum pronorum, et de eorum consensu. Item eadem autoritate et de eiusdẽ
catholice maiestatis beneplacito, statuimus et ordinamus, q̃ quilibet dicte nr̃e ecclie et dio-
cesis clericus prime thonsure ad hoc ut posit priuilegio gaudere clericali, deferat thonsu-
ram vnius regalis argentei magnetudinis monete usualis hispanie et per duos digitos
infra aures tantum atergo prosequente sisura capillos tondeat. uestibusq̃ honestis
induatur, clamide uidelicet, uel mantello, seu pallio, quod uulgariter loba nuncupatur,
o manto clauso, uel apperto, ad terram protensis, non rubrei croceiq̃ coloris, sed alterius
honesti coloris, quibus tam inuestibus superioribus, q̃ in inferioribus vtatur.

Item eadem aptica autoritate, necnõ de eiusdem celsitudinis, et catholice maiestatis con-
sensu deliberato, quia in ipsa prouincia de Mexico, in noua hispania uulgariter nuncu-
pata, in ciuitate Mexiconeñ, et sub in uocatione beatissime marie virginis asumptionis,
cathedralem eccliam in honorem eiusdem uirginis assumptionis. aptica autoritate per-
petuo erigimus, domos, habitatores, incolas, et vicinos, tam intra ciuitatem, q̃ in sub-
urbijs eiusdem ciuitatis de presenti uel in futurum habitantes, et conmorantes in dicte
ecclie uirginis marie assumptionis parrochianos deputamus et assignamus, donec in
dicta ciuitate cõmoda per nos, et nr̃os successores fiat diuisio parrochiarũ cui etiam intra
parrochialis ecclie, soluere teneant decimas, primitias et oblationes offerre arectoribus
eiusdem ecclie, confesionis, eucharistie, et alia sacramenta recipere, necnon eisdem
rectoribus sacramenta hmoi conferre et administrare, et parrochianis recipiendi, licen-
ciam concedimus, pariter et facultatẽ.

Item volumus, statuimus, et ordinamus, q̃ consuetudines, constitutiones, ritus,
et mores legitimos et approbatos, tam officiorum q̃ insigniarũ et habitus anniuersarioꝝ
officiorum, missarum, aliarumq̃ omnium approbatarum ecclie hispalensis, necnon
aliarum cuiusuis ecclie seu eccliarum, ad nr̃am cathedralem decorandam, et regendã
necesarie reducere, ac transplantare, libere valeamus.

Et quia que nouo emergunt, nouo indigent auxilio, igitur litterarum supradictarum virtute,
nobis, et successoribus nr̃is plenissimam emendandi, ampliandi, et ea que opportuerit statu-
endi, et ordinandi in posterum potestatem reseruamus, ut possimus id facere de con-

sensu

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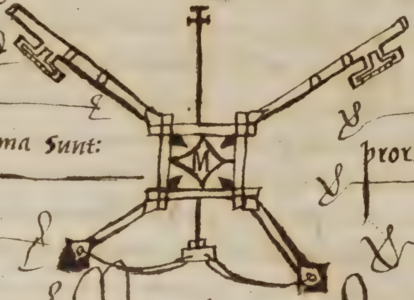
petitione, et instancia regie maiestatis, tam circa questionem et taxationem dotis perpetuā, uel temporalem, et limitum nr̄i episcopatus, et omnium beneficiorum, q̄ circa retentionem decimarum, uel diuisionem earundem, secundum thenorem bulle alexandri, per quam ipsis regibus hispanie fuit facta donatio decimarum, licet ad presens per eandem regiam maiestatem, ad alimenta nobis sint. cum his tamen qualitatibus, donata, que omnia et singula, instantibus et petentibus predictis dominis meis, regina, ac regibus, dicta ap̄lica autoritate qua fungimur in hac parte, et melioribus modo, uia, atq; forma, quibus melius possumus, et de iure debemus. erigimus, instituimus, creamus, facimus, disponimus et ordinamus, cum omnibus et singulis, ad id necessariis, et opportunis, non obstantibus contrariis quibus cunq; et illis precipue, que Sanctissimus dn̄s nr̄ prefatus in suis preinsertis litteris apostolicis, uoluit non obstare, et ea omnia et singula omnibus et Singulis presentibus et futuris cuius cunq; status, gradus, ordinis, preeminentie, uel conditionis, fuerint, intimamus, insinuamus, et ad omniū noticiam deducimus et deduci uolumus. per presentes mandamus, predicta autoritate, in Sancte obedientie uirtute, omnibus et singulis supradictis, ut omnia et singula quemadmodū a nobis instituta sunt, obseruent, et obseruari faciant. in quorum omnium et singulorum, fidem et testimoniū premissorū, presentes litteras, siue presens publicum instrumentū ex inde fieri, et per notariū publicū infra scriptum, scribi, et publicari, nr̄iq; sigilli iussimus et fecimus appensione conmuniri, datis. Toleti sub anno a natiuitate dn̄i, Millmo quingmo Tricesimo quarto. Omnem suscriptionem et lineatam et per notarium approbatam

Fr. Joānes de çumarraga.
ep̄us mexicanen̄

Et quia ego christophorus de cabrera clericus burgen̄ diocesis: apostolicus autoritate ap̄lica notarius: prefatis presentationi: requisitioni: aceptationi: erectioni: institutioni: applicationi: premissis q; omnibus et singulis dum Sic ut premittitur agerentur et fierent presens fui: ideo hoc presens publicum instrumentū manu propria scriptum: et ex notis meis sūptū: Signo et nomine meis solitis et consuetis Signaui atq; subscripsi in fidem et testimoniū premissorum, rogatus, et requisitus. Va sobre raydo o diz vexillo e o diz positis. Va entre renglones o diz dn̄m e o diz fortunam. e sobre raydo o diz iuxta e o diz prouidenda e o diz ut. Vala e no empezca. Testigos que fuerō presentes a lo que dicho es, llamados e rogados. Raphael de ceruantes maestro en artes y doctor en theologia prouisor deste obpado de mexico y francisco martinez clerigos presbyteros. e Sancho lopez de agurto mayordomo desta dicha yglia: e alonso lopez alguacil dela audiencia episcopal legos. E yo el sobredicho notario publico que a todo lo

que dicho es presente fuy en vno con los dichos testigos / e lo signe con mi signo / rubrica /
y nonbre acostumbrados, rogado y requirido. que fue fecha en la ciudad de mexico
a siete dias del mes de setiembre año de nro salvador ihu christo de mil y quinientos
y treinta y cinco

verba verissima sunt:



prorsus fugitantia mallu.

christobal de cabrera
apostolico notº

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Erection de mexico

Madrid. May 1871.

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I shall endeavour to translate and resume the contents of this all-important document, using the very words of the writers thereof.

" It behooved Divine Goodness to place at the head of Spain princes, who, to destroy idolatry, enter, with large armies, the most unknown and distant countries. Queen Jane and her son Charles, have, at a heavy cost, fitted innumerable vessels, which they sent across seas full of dangers, towards shores barren and difficult of access, without the hope of realizing from these difficult expeditions the least material profit. Great losses have been experienced, both in going and returning; nor did they always succeed in implanting the Christian religion among people hostile and hard to lead. Superior men, soldiers and scholars of all kinds, have been sent to those barbarous tribes, which lived almost like brutes, in order to bring them to subjection and erect churches. Many years of efforts have been required to convert a people which had been adoring for centuries, Astaroth, Bel, Beldagon and other sea divinities. CUMANÁ, PEARL RIVER, LITTLE-VENICE, SANCTA MARTHA, NOMEN DEI, DARIEN, PANNAMA, NICARAGUA, CARTHAGO INDICA, PROFUNDA LOCA, PERUTUM, YUCATAN, COCUMELL, PALM RIVER, HISPANICA, FERNANDINA, MARGARITA, JAMAICA, SAN JUAN, &c possess rich churches and convents. To-day, our Sovereigns have just achieved the establishment, with the assent of the Pope, of an archbishopric in the Province of Mexico, which is the principal part of New Spain, with a Cathedral, parochial churches, deanries, prebends, &c &c. &c.

I, JUAN DE CUMARRAGA, a Franciscan monk, .... have been appointed Bishop, and Pope Clement VII has confirmed me by an apostolic brief written on parchment, with a leaden seal attached with a silk thread red and yellow. This document was remitted to me, by the intermediary of the King, in the Church itself, in presence of a great concourse of people.

Here is the text thereof:

" The village [Oppidum] of Mexico, in the Indies of the Tyrrhenean Sea, was conquered in the reign of Ferdinand of Aragon and Elizabeth of Castille, by Pedro Arias of Segovia, Captain general of the expedition to the Indies. Now, under the reign of Charles and under the administration

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of this Pedro, it contains twenty thousand inhabitants (converted natives or strangers who have come from all parts). They have erected churches, Convents, holy-places, among which a parochial church under the name of Santa-Maria. The Emperor Charles wishing to alter the latter into a Cathedral and to make of the village (Oppidum) a city [civitas], We have resolved, with the assent of the Cardinals, to promote this church to the rank of Cathedral, under the name of Church of the Assumption, to establish therein a Bishopric with all its dependencies, and to confer to all the inhabitants of Mexico, the title of citizen. The Bishop shall enjoy all the rights ascribed to prelates of his rank.

Rome, September 5th 1534."

In consequence of the Papal Brief, Juan de Cumarraga, creates the following offices:

Five dignitaries, viz:

A Dean, an Archdeacon, a Chanter, a Grammar Teacher, and a Treasurer, who is at the same time, Door-Keeper, Bell-Ringer and Beadle [or rather Sexton or Sacristan].

Ten Canons, six Deacons, and six Under-Deacons, two Rectors, six Acolothists [ἀκολουθέω], six Chaplains, a sub-sacristan [or beadle], an Organist, an Usher, a Steward, a Chancelor [or Notary], and a CANICULARIUS whose functions consist in expelling dogs from the Church which he is also charged with sweeping.

The revenues of the Church or Cathedral, not being sufficient yet to maintain so many persons, the appointments of the Treasurer, of five Canons and of all the Deacons and under-Deacons is postponed. Other offices will likewise be suspended if the poorness of the revenue require it, until the day when it will be possible to fill all the vacancies, commencing with that of the treasurer.

The Dean shall receive 150 piastres (setting the value of the piastre at a Castillian gold piece and 485 maravedis). The Archdeacon and the other three Dignitaries shall receive 130 piastres each; every Canon 100, the Deacon 70, the under-Deacon 35, the Chaplain 20, the Acolothist 12, the Organist, the Notary and the Usher 16 piastres each; the Steward 50, the Canicularius.

....... Now follow the mode of payment, fines &c &c

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The Bishop shall be entitled to one quarter of the entire revenue of the Church; the second quarter shall be set aside for the salary of the Clergy; As to the other two quarters they will be divided into nine equal portions.

Two parts shall belong to the King

Four parts shall be given to the two Rectors and to the sacristans of the Diocesan churches.

One and a half part shall be applied to the Church wardens, and

One and a half part to the Hospitals....

.......... Then follow interesting details concerning the manner how the Clergy shall be chosen. Until the time when the Indians shall have given proofs of their capacity and attachment to the Christian Religion, the Clergy shall be taken from the Spanish Colony, under the Kings' presentation. The Indian will be first examined as it is done in the Bishopric of Palenqué; and the King shall have one and a half year to confirm the choice of a native.

Divine service will be performed according to the system of rituals of the Church of Sevilla....... Then follows details touching the division of the new city of Mexico into Parishes........

Done in Toledo in the year of the Lord One Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-Four.

It is signed by the Bishop of Mexico himself.

The body of the document is in the hand-writing of Cristobal de Cabrera, Notary apostolic, who also wrote the certificate at the end, which certificate was delivered in <u>Mexico, September 7th 1535.</u>

The seal reads as follows:

FRA(ter) IOA(nnes) DE CUMARAGA, DEI GR(ati)A PRIMUS EP(iscop) VS MEXICONEN (sis).

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The text has been published in full, and faithfully, by Bishop Lorenzana, in his <u>Concilium Mexicanum</u>, Mexico, 1769, 4to, Vol. II, at the end with a separate pagination, under the title of: <u>Erectio Ecclesiæ Mexicanæ quæ eadem est cum ceteris ejusdem provinciæ.</u>

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D. Fr. JUAN DE ZUMÁRRAGA or ÇUMÁRRAGA, was born at Durango, in the Province of Biſcaya. When? "En el año de 1468," says Gil Gonzalez Davila. (*Teatro*, p. 19.) He joined the order of the Franciſcans. In what year? He was in charge of their convent of Abrojo, near Valladolid, when Charles V appointed him Biſhop of Mexico.

"Hecho obiſpo, antes de consagrarse pasó á estas partes de la Nueva Eſpaña, año de mil y quinientos y veinte ocho, con título de electo obiſpo y protector de los indios", says Fray Gerónimo de Mendieta (*Historia Eclesiástica Indiana*, cap. XXVII, p. 629. Of Icazbalceta's edition)

But it seems that the first steps for the erection of the Mexican biſhopric were taken the year preceding, since we find in Herrera (*Decad. IV*, lib. II, cap. II) under the date of 1527, the following remark: "Començaronse a despachar negocios de Nueva Eſpaña i preſento el Rei para el Obiſpado, que convenia erigir en Mexico, á Fr. Juan de Çummaraga......" Yet G. G. Davila (p. 20) says "en doze de Diziembre del año de 1527, le consagró D. F. Julian Garces, Obiſpo de Tascala".

He returned to Spain in 1532, probably to have a settlement of his difficulties with the "Oidores" and Governors, chiefly concerning the awful treatment inflicted on the Indians. He was still in Spain in January 1533, for I discovered in the Columbian Library at Seville a plaquette, an oration delivered by him, and dated "ex Maioreti oppido Kl. Ianuarij. M.D.XXXIII." In all probability he prolonged his stay until he had been duly consecrated, for Mendieta says:

"Tornó consagrado á esta Nueva España año de mil y quinientos y treinta y cuatro." (*loc. cit.* p. 631.)

This agrees with the above Bull of Clement VII, which is dated Sept. 5th 1534.

He did not remain long in Mexico, for the above mentioned plaquette, contains a manuscript note, signed by Fernando Columbus, which reads as follows:

"Este libro me dio el meſmo autor en Valladolid a .25. de agoſto de 1536". (Cf. our *Addition to the B.A.V.*)

It is on the occasion of this voyage that he probably supplied himself with the Document, the original of which is bound herein. It was found in Spain, either at Toledo, or among the archives of the great house of Altamira. It was owned for a long time by Gallardo.

Zumarraga was attending the wants of the poor in the village of Ocuituco, when he received the papal bull promoting him to the rank of

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Archbishop. But in what year? "En el año de 1547. Paul III le dio titulo de Arcobispo" says Davila, p. 28.

He died apparently of a stricture of the urethra ("mal de orina", says Mendieta) "Domingo despues de la fiesta del Corpus Christi, a las nueve de la mañana, año de mil y quinientos y cuarenta y ocho" — 1548.

Mendieta says:

"Los tapices y paños de su casa, eran muchos y buenos libros, porque era amicísimo de letras y de los que las tenian con humildad."

Yet he is charged with having collected from every quarter, especially from Tezcuco, the most cultivated capital in Anahuac, and the great depository of the national archives, all the MSS. and paintings of the Mexicans, which he caused to be piled up in a mountain heap, in the market place of Tlatelolco, and reduced them to ashes.

The chief authorities for this charge are:

Joseph de Acosta: De Natura Novi Orbis. Salmant. 1589. 8º. Lib. VI, cap. 7.
J. de Torquemada : Monarquia Indiana. Sevilla, 1615, fol. Lib. II, III, cap. 6, lib. XIV, c. 8.
Prescott quotes Ixtlilxochitl. Hist. Chich., MS., Prologo. — Idem, Sum. Relac. MS.
See also Clavigero, Stor. del Messico, tom II, p. 188 (if possible the original Spanish text just discovered in Mexico.)
Bustamante's Pref. to Ixtlilxochitl, Cruautés des Espagnols (trad. by Ternaux. p. xvii)

We have of Zummaraga a very interesting letter dated 1532, and addressed to P. Mathias Weynssen, general of the order, which was first published in the addition to the Latin Cortes. of 1532 (B.A.V. Nº 168). It was afterwards republished in the Novus Orbis of 1555. The Spanish text is to be found in the additions to the Thesoro de Virtudes (B.A.V. No 244), and in Gil Gonzales Davila's Teatro (p. 26.)

He is also the author of the Doctrina Breve, printed at Mexico in 1544 (B.A.V. No 249).

Herrera says that when he was entrusted by the King with the task of writing his Historia, he was permitted to consult the "Papeles que havia en su Real Camara", among which "se hallaron las Relaciones del Obispo Zumarraga". (Decad. VI, lib. III, cap. XIX). We have been unable to find the least traces of them either in Toledo, Madrid or Sevilla. In the Biblioteca Nacional at Madrid, there is from him a "Carta al Comendador Francisco de los Cobos, año 1530, sobre los trabajos que padecian los indios por los españoles, y sobre la multitud de pleitos que se movieron despues que fué allá la Audiencia de Mejico" (G, 67, p. 345)

In the Uguina collection of MSS. bought of Rich by Mr. Lenox, we find "Cartas de Fr. Juan de Zummaraga primer Obispo de Mexico. 1529, &c. Folio, 63 leaves" No 35.

There is no mention of him in Wadding. Scriptor. Ordin. Minorum. That in the Monarquia of Torquemada (Vol. III, cap. 30, p. 506) is taken from Mendieta.

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CHRISTOPHORUS DE CABRERA, ſacræ theologiæ magiſter, ſacerdoſque Palentinæ diœceſis (Antonio, B. H. Nova, I, p. 288.), calls himself "Burgenſis" (Manual de adultos)

The preſent document, which was written and certified by him as apostolical Notary, is the earliest mention which we have been able to find of his name and avocation.

He was a prolific writer of devotional poetry, as may be seen from the long list of works, printed and manuscript, given by Antonio.

He is the author of the distich inscribed at the close of the Manual de Adultos (B. A. V. Nº 232).

The Bibliotheca Barlowiana poſseſses his rariſsima Meditatiuncula (Valladolid, 1548, 4to), in which Cabrera alludes to his sad experience among the Indians of New Spain, and utters objurgations against Mexico.

In our Additions to the B. A. V., we describe, on the authority of Gallardo (Enſayo, Nº 1519) his Flores de Conſolacion (Valladolid, 1549, 8º), which are dedicated to Cortez' second wife, and dated "En Cuernavaca, o como los indios dicen, Cohannauac, el mas fresco y apacible pueblo de la Nueva España, 25 de Mayo."

According to this date, he seems to have been still living in Mexico in 1549, although the privilege of the Meditatiunculæ, which is dated "Valladolid a. XXI des mes de Iulio de M. D. XLVIII años", calls him "vezino de la villa del Rio."

The witneſses to the act, were:

RAPHAEL DE CERVANES "maestro en artes y doctor en theologia proviſor deſte obiſpado de Mexico.

FRANCISCO MARTINEZ "Clerigo presbytero"

SANCHO LOPEZ DE AGUITO "Mayordomo desta dicha yglesia"

ALONSO LOPEZ "alguazil dela audiencia."

Concerning whom, I have not been able as yet to ascertain anything.

H. H.

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